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Secretary
M. S. 1170

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

11 MAY 1994

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

CN9402002

The Honorable Bob Packwood
United States Senate
259 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-3702

RECEIVED

MAY 11 1994

Dear Senator Packwood:

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

This is in reply to your letter of April 22, 1994, on behalf of your constituent, Cheryl O'Donnell, 911 Coordinator for Clackamas County, who is interested in the implementation of Enhanced 911 (E-911) technology in the Personal Communication Services industry.

On September 23, 1993, the Commission adopted a Second Report and Order in GEN Docket No. 90-314 that established rules for new Personal Communications Services (PCS). In this Order, we urged the PCS industry and standards-setting bodies to "direct particular attention [to] offering an emergency 911 capability that would work with enhanced-911 systems (E-911) and, to the extent feasible, permit locating a caller in situations where the caller is unable to state his location." Also, we indicated that we were contemplating the initiation of a future rule making proceeding "to address E-911 and related issues with regard to PCS, cellular, and any other relevant mobile service."

In response to our Order, the Texas Attorney General's Office filed a Petition for Reconsideration requesting that we require PCS licensees to provide E-911 service as a condition of license, and that we require development of a single, uniform standard for PCS E-911 service. There were a number of comments filed in support of Texas' petition. Several companies expressed concern about the potentially significant added costs of providing precise E-911 location information, as well as the delays that an FCC mandate for providing such information could bring to PCS development.

We are carefully considering the Texas petition and the comments filed in response to it. Because of the importance of this issue, we are considering the initiation of a separate rule making proceeding later this year dedicated exclusively to the E-911 capabilities of mobile telephone services. Such a proceeding would allow us to fully address all regulatory aspects of E-911, and to develop the most fair and effective regulations possible. In the meantime, a joint industry group consisting of representatives from the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO), the National Emergency Number Association (NENA), and the Personal Communications Industry Association (PCIA), have been working to develop a common position on how PCS E-911 service should be implemented. We expect the results of those discussions to be filed with the Commission shortly.

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The Honorable Bob Packwood

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We appreciate your constituent's thoughts on this important topic and have added them, along with your letter, to the record in the PCS proceeding.

Sincerely,



Thomas P. Stanley
Chief Engineer

Richard B. Engelman
Chief, OET/AED/TSB

Julius P. Knapp
Chief, OET/AED

cc (w/incoming): Secretary, for inclusion in GEN Docket 90-314

cc: Chief Engineer
Julius Knapp
Richard Engelman
Robert Bromery
Art Wall
DWilson:kls:May 6, 1994

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SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE
RANKING REPUBLICAN

SENATE COMMERCE,
SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

SENATE JOINT COMMITTEE
ON TAXATION

United States Senate

BOB PACKWOOD
OREGON

April 22, 1994

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FCC Office of Legislative Affairs
Attn: Lou Sizemore
Federal Communications Commission
Room 808
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Sizemore:

Enclosed you will find a letter I received from one of my constituents regarding 9-i-1 services.

Because of the desire of this office to be responsive to all inquiries and communications, your consideration of the attached is requested. Please send your findings and views to my Washington office:

Senator Bob Packwood
ATTN: MATTHEW LOWE
259 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-3702

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Bob Packwood

BOB PACKWOOD

BP\mdl
Enclosure



CLACKAMAS COUNTY

General Services Administration

9-1-1 County Coordination

CAROLE J. BERGGREN
G.S.A. DIRECTOR
CHERYL A. O'DONNELL
9-1-1 COORDINATOR

March 30, 1994

The Honorable Bob Packwood
259 Russell Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Packwood:

I am writing to you to ask for your support to provide a wireless service, Personal Communication Service (P.C.S.), that will ensure the safety of the user of that service. I am one of your constituents and I work in the field of public safety as a 9-1-1 Coordinator. Personal Communication Service is about to become a reality and we in Public Safety have a great concern for its ability to protect its user.

Let me set the scene for you:

ENHANCED 9-1-1 SERVICE

You are at home, an emergency arises, you simply dial 9-1-1. Your call is answered by a call taker at your emergency center. Along with that call comes vital information; i.e. name, address, city, zip, telephone number, date, time of day and the public safety agencies (fire, police and EMS) that cover your address. Response is quick. Dispatch is almost immediate and your loved one is treated.

P.C.S. WIRELESS SERVICE

You take your small telephone unit with you and go for a walk in the park. While a mile or so away, you become violently ill. You take out your small telephone and dial 9-1-1. The call taker in your emergency center answers but has no idea of where you are. If you are unable to speak -- well you can see the obvious consequences.

I hasten to add that cellular service, as we know it today, in almost all cases provides neither the calling number nor the location of the caller.

This is a national issue. Within one to three years this service will begin to seriously affect wired telephone service. People will remove their residence lines to reduce cost and use wireless and pay air time.

As my Senator, I would like you to have the F.C.C. take the necessary steps to mandate exact physical location of a caller that uses wireless service, and to provide the same life saving capabilities as Enhanced 9-1-1 service now provides to our residential and business communities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Cheryl O'Donnell
9-1-1 Coordinator